IOM COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS / FEBRUARY 2022

KEY POPULATION DATA

- **5.83 million** IDPs in Afghanistan
- **1.3 million** People displaced between 1 January – 31 December 2021
- **More than 3.6 million** People targeted
- **67,606** Undocumented Afghan returnees from Iran (61,133) and Pakistan (6,473) were reported between 1 February – 31 February 2022
- **777,904** People reached with IOM assistance since 15 August 2021 - 28 February 2022

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

In order to track mobility dynamics, provide information on population estimates, locations and geographic distribution of displaced, return and migrant populations, reasons for displacement, places of origin and periods of displacement, IOM has been conducting Baseline Mobility Assessments (BMA) in Afghanistan on a regular basis since 2016. The latest BMA was conducted in November and December 2021 through interviews with community focal points in more than 13,000 settlements across the 34 provinces of the country. These assessments have identified a total of 5,832,454 individuals who are currently displaced across the country. Over one fifth of these individuals (1,327,474 or 23%) were displaced in 2021 as a result of conflict and natural disasters. The Herat province hosts the most important percentage of IDPs as well as the largest number of out-migrants. The Khost province hosts the most IDPs in informal settlements whilst more than 70% of the IDPs from the Logar province have not returned yet.

In addition to these figures, results from the Community-Based Needs Assessment conducted simultaneously, highlights that over four out of five (83%) are unemployed in Afghanistan. Due to food insecurity and low access to markets, almost all assessed communities reported the price of cooking oil, rice, flour and fuel have increased. As a consequence, families resort to coping mechanisms such as consuming less nutritious foods, borrowing money to buy food and, in the most severe cases, skipping meals. Finally, four in the five communities (81%) do not have a health clinic within the confines of the community.

CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS

The estimated number of individuals crossing Afghanistan's borders is based on the DTM's flow monitoring activities conducted at four key border crossing points where information is collected on the profiles, journeys, intentions and observed/reported vulnerabilities of populations on the move. The political transition in August 2021 and the related humanitarian deterioration in Afghanistan continues to lead to significant outflows to Iran and Pakistan and are consistently exceeding the number of returns to the country. Whilst the inflows and outflows between Afghanistan and Pakistan had significantly increased between October and December 2021, these movements slowed down during the first two months of the year. Regarding the cross-border movements between Afghanistan and Iran, both inflows and outflows have been gradually reducing since October 2021. However, the more lenient weather conditions typically associated with the start of the spring season are already leading to increasing inflows and outflows from Afghanistan, which have been observed since the beginning of March. This applies in particular to the crossings between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

For more comprehensive overviews of the displacement situation as well as the migratory flows in Afghanistan and across the region, the latest IOM DTM reports can be found at this [link](#).

UPDATE ON MOBILITY DYNAMICS

- **589,771,000 USD** Total funding received to date
- **135,250,910 USD** Total funding required

FUNDING OVERVIEW (2021-2024)

- **$128,340,000**
  - **$25,340,000**
  - **$101,724,000**
- **$189,368,000**
- **$33,971,682**
- **$85,336,819**
- **$271,339,000**

IOM AFGHANISTAN PRESENCE AND DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE

As of February 2022

![Map of Afghanistan showing IOM presence and delivery of assistance](https://example.com/map)

![Mobile health unit in Kandahar, 2021 © IOM Afghanistan](https://example.com/image)

[Source: IOM | The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations or its agencies.](https://example.com/notes)
During the month of February, IOM continued assessments to inform distributions and organized winterization distributions for vulnerable households in 34 provinces. During the reporting period, a total of 9,198 individuals received winterization support such as cash, winter clothing, heating material, fuel, and stoves. In addition, IOM also provided NFI kits (including household items such as kitchen sets, blankets, and solar lamps) and shelter support (including shelter tool kits, tents, and tarpaulins) to 15,134 individuals displaced by conflict in the Uruzgan, Badghis and Kunduz provinces. IOM remains one of the biggest Emergency Shelter / NFI actor in Afghanistan. Since the start of the year, approximately 40% of the total individuals reached within the framework of the shelter cluster were provided with IOM assistance. To date, 13% of the targeted 1.94 million in need of shelter / NFI assistance have been reached.

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

In February, the tendering for 7 small scale disaster mitigation projects in Parwan and Kabul began. A total of 2,620 participants (with 50% female participation) were trained in Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in three communities in Kunar, Kabul provinces.

**PROTECTION**

During the month of February, a total of 15,259 undocumented returnees were screened for protection concerns. 288 undocumented returnees with specific needs were identified and received post-arrival protection assistance (including emergency accommodation and safe transportation to their province of return). IOM provided assistance to 355 new protection cases and closed 90 cases in 11 provinces. Additionally, cash assistance was provided to 7,797 undocumented returnees and IDPs as part of a comprehensive case management response that included dissemination of information and referrals to humanitarian services. Protection monitoring, under the form of community consultations, actively involved 789 people in 11 provinces.

**HEALTH**

In February, IOM Mobile Health Teams (MHTs) and Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) reached 41,826 people with lifesaving health services, including reproductive health services for 5,266 female beneficiaries. During the month of February, RRTs screened over 210,616 individuals for COVID-19 and together with the MHTs reached over 224,455 individuals with risk communication and community engagement activities on COVID-19 prevention measures, alongside sensitization on other diseases. A total of 14,602 vaccines doses for COVID-19 were administered with support from IOM during the reporting period, and 1,534 people were provided with PCR tests.

IOM continues to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), with interventions provided by IOM psychosocial support counsellors attached to the MHTs, whereby a total of 2,296 individuals received psychosocial services. Additionally, IOM carried out regular community sensitization to address stigma and increase awareness of warning signs of mental health conditions and provide information on available MHPSS services.

**CROSS BORDER RETURN AND REINTEGRATION**

IOM and partners have continued to provide vulnerable undocumented Afghans with immediate humanitarian post-arrival assistance at the major border crossings with Pakistan and Iran. In February, a total of 26,048 people in 4 provinces received post-arrival assistance including temporary accommodation, hot meals, and onward transportation assistance. Food packages were distributed to 11,464 people and 21,365 people received cash for transportation.

**CCCM**

IOM continues supporting the recently established CCCM Working Group and will hire additional information management capacity to continue supporting them. The working group is defining the work priorities for the next six months and started mapping the IDPs and informal sites with the support of the partners and in collaboration of IOM through the Community Based Needs Assessment conducted by IOM’s DTM.

**WASH**

During the month of February, IOM’s WASH community mobilizers have reached 4,623 individuals with hygiene promotion activities, of whom 1,292 people received key hygiene kits. IOM conducted technical assessments in 914 sites, assessing different water sources, such as hand pumps, open wells and small water schemes and conducted assessments at household level in various districts of Kabul, Herat and Nangarhar provinces to build an evidence-based strategy for future WASH interventions.

---

2. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
3. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
4. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
5. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
6. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
7. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
8. **Note:** Data as of mid-February 2022.
IOM COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN FOR AFGHANISTAN AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES HIGHLIGHTS
REPORTING PERIOD FEBRUARY 2022

ADDRESS MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT DRIVERS AND MITIGATE MID-TERM IMPACTS OF THE CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN AND ACROSS THE REGION

STABILISATION, REINTEGRATION AND RESILIENCE

Since 15 August, IOM has implemented area-based interventions to promote community resilience and assist returning Afghans in 8 provinces. In February, 12 community development projects remain ongoing and 2 were completed. These projects provided over 293 people from the target communities with short-term employment opportunities. 364 people were enrolled in Technical & Vocational Education Training, 328 people participated in apprenticeships, and 17 Small-Medium Enterprise that employ 73 people received support.

Some concrete measures include using remote working currently adjusting working environment and modalities. Women and girls continue to face barriers and risks in the course of their work. Female staff have an imposed dress code, are forced to move with a mahram, and are policed by family and community members to restrict movement and conform to increasingly conservative norms. IOM, in coordination with the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group, continues to strongly advocate with the de-facto authorities to ensure women’s meaningful participation in the humanitarian response, which in turn is essential for the access of vulnerable Afghan women and girls to receive needed assistance. IOM is currently adjusting working environment and modalities. Some concrete measures include using remote working modalities both for protection monitoring and case management to ensure that staff who do not feel safe operating in a certain area would be able to continue working. A combination of in-person and remote working modalities are now in place for IOM’s protection programming in 11 provinces. In addition, a pilot initiative through which Mahrams of female staff are provided with remuneration, has been put in place to allow IOM to continue in-person protection assistance, in particular for female-headed households in rural areas.

Female humanitarian staff continue to face barriers and risks in the course of their work. Female staff have an imposed dress code, are forced to move with a mahram, and are policed by family and community members to restrict movement and conform to increasingly conservative norms. IOM, in coordination with the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group, continues to strongly advocate with the de-facto authorities to ensure women’s meaningful participation in the humanitarian response, which in turn is essential for the access of vulnerable Afghan women and girls to receive needed assistance. IOM is currently adjusting working environment and modalities. Some concrete measures include using remote working modalities both for protection monitoring and case management to ensure that staff who do not feel safe operating in a certain area would be able to continue working. A combination of in-person and remote working modalities are now in place for IOM’s protection programming in 11 provinces. In addition, a pilot initiative through which Mahrams of female staff are provided with remuneration, has been put in place to allow IOM to continue in-person protection assistance, in particular for female-headed households in rural areas.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:

INFORM PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

DTM

Round 14 of the DRM Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA) and Community-Based Needs Assessment (CBNA) will be published in early March 2022. The report includes assessments carried out by DTM teams in 13,187 communities across Afghanistan covering all 34 provinces and 401 districts. DTM identified 5,832,454 individuals displaced between 2012 and 2021 and remain displaced. Over one fifth of those individuals (1,327,474, or 23%) displaced in 2021 were as a result of conflict and natural disaster.

CROSS-CUTTING POINTS

WOMEN AND GIRLS

Since January 2021, more than 13,216 Afghan nationals were provided with resettlement support to over 50 countries of destination (including Canada, the USA, Australia, Sweden and Germany who are the top five hosting countries). During the month of February 2022, a total 730 Afghan nationals were provided with movement support from Pakistan to various destination countries. In addition, IOM is in the process of organizing charter flights for Afghan refugees in Tajikistan. The first flight to Canada is scheduled for mid-March 2022, with subsequent monthly flights planned until June 2022. Resettlement activities are not funded through the CAP as these are coordinated bilaterally with concerned governments.

At the processing site established by the US government in Doha, Qatar, IOM has been supporting the evacuation of Afghans nationals to the USA. In the framework of the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), since September 2021, almost 5,700 individuals were provided with organized transportation from Doha to the USA. IOM is also supporting the management of Camp Liya (Bondsteel base) in Kosovo, where more than 200 US-bound Afghan evacuees are provided with assistance. Finally, under the Operations Allies Welcome (OAW) interagency response, IOM has successfully closed out Phase 1, where more than 58,000 Afghan evacuees were provided with organized transportation from eight bases in the USA, to their final destinations.

IOM welcomes the Security Council’s resolution providing for a humanitarian exemption to the Sanctions regime, thus enabling for the provision of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. As the carve-out has supported the scaling up of activities aimed at addressing basic human needs, IOM is, at the same time, putting in place compliance as well as robust risk management and due diligence measures to minimize risks of diversions. This includes determining which activities fall under the exemption, establishing monitoring mechanisms to ensure that targeted populations benefit from the activities intended for them, adapting our internal procurement of goods, service and construction protocols and defining how and to what extent IOM can engage with the de facto authorities.

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY

REGIONAL RESPONSE

In Pakistan and in coordination with the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR), IOM conducted Post Distribution Monitoring assessments for a recently concluded cash assistance programming for Afghan Citizenship Cardholders (ACC). Findings show that all beneficiaries were satisfied with the distribution process, 88% reported a preference for cash assistance compared to 12% for in-kind. The majority of beneficiaries used it to purchase food supplies, followed by medicines or medical healthcare, utilities and to pay off debts. Findings will inform future planning and response.